Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, UY

SUBJ: RELATIONS WITH URUGUAY

REF: STATE 033814

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

- 1. WHEN I SAW FONMINISTER BLANCO LAST NIGHT (SEPTEL) I GAVE HIM SUBSTANCE OF PARA ONE REFTEL. HE WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH GENERAL COMMENTS ON URUGUAY'S POLICY IN HEMISPHERIC MATTERS AND, ESPECIALLY, WITH REACTION TO ITEM WITH URUGUAY INSCRIBED FOR OAS MEETING AGENDA. HE TOLD ME IN THIS CONTEXT THAT HE HAD VISTED PRESIDENT BORDABERRY AT HIS ESTANCIA IN DURAZNO AND HAD GIVEN HIM A COPY OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S RECENT LETTER. THE PRESIDENT, HE SAID, HAD BEEN MOST GRATIFIED AND APPRECIATIVE.
- 2. REGARDING FMS CREDITS, I FOUND IT NECESSARY BOTH IN MY
 MEETING WITH BLANCO LAST NIGHT AND IN A LUNCH WHICH I HAD FOR
 THE MINDEFENSE YESTERDAY, TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL THE TRUE SITUATION
 WITH RESPECT TO FMS CREDITS, WHAT WE ARE TYRING TO DO AND THE
 EXISTING UNCERTAINTIES. THIS WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE SINCE SENDING
 MY INQUIRY LAST WEEK (TO WHICH THE SECOND PARA OF REFTEL RESPNDED),
 I LEARNED A) FROM THE MILGRP COMMANDER THAT AIR FORCE CHIEF
 GEN. PALADINI HAD LEARNED, AS HE PUT IT, THAT THE CREDITS WERE TO BE
 GREATLY INCREASED AND B) IN ALETTER FROM FRANK ORTIZ THAT AMBASSADOR
 PEREZ CALDAS IS FULLY AWARE OF THIS AND THAT FRANK HAD ATTEMPTED TO
 GIVE HIM A PROPDQ PERSPECTIVE ON THE MATTER. IN THIS CIRCUMSTANCE
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I CAREFULLY EXPLAINED TO MINISTERS RAVENNA AND BLANCO EXACTLY WHAT

THE SITUATION IS IN HOPES THAT THIS MAY HELP CLEAR UP MISUNDERSTAND-INGS AND AVOID TOO GREAT A DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE EVENT WE DO NOT GET THE FUNDS. NEVERTHELESS, SINCE YOU WELL KNOW THE POWER OF EXPECTATIONS,

THE FACT THAT THE URUGUAYANS IN WASHINGTON SOMEHOW LEARNED THIS MAKES IT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT WE SUCCEED IN OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ADEQUATE CREDIT AS I RECOMMENDED IN WASHINGTON. SIRACUSA

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